



IN MEMORIAM
BLOOMINGTON'S FIRST VILLAGE
MANAGER PASSES AWAY

FRANK H. LAWLER, BLOOMINGTON'S FIRST Village Manager, passed away in November. Lawler was hired in May 1956 when Bloomington changed from a Mayor to a Council/Manager form of government. He served until May 1958.

Lawler was Manager during a huge population and development growth phase for the Village of Bloomington. Major projects completed in 1956 included I-35W, Met Stadium and Bush Lake Beach.

Lawler also served as city manager in Abilene, Kansas; Newton, Kansas; Ottuma, Iowa; and West Palm Beach, Florida. He became the first city administrator for the city of Leawood, Kansas, in 1976. According to his daughter-in-law Margaret, Lawler was "passionate about his work and truly loved city government."

Lawler lived in Overland Park, Kansas. He was 86.

BLOOMINGTON
CONVENTION AND
VISITORS BUREAU
2005 GOLD SERVICE
AWARD WINNER



THE BLOOMINGTON CONVENTION AND Visitors Bureau (BCVB) was honored with Meetings and Conventions Magazine's Gold Service Award in December. The award honors convention and visitors bureaus that have demonstrated overall excellence, professionalism and dedication in their service to meeting professionals.

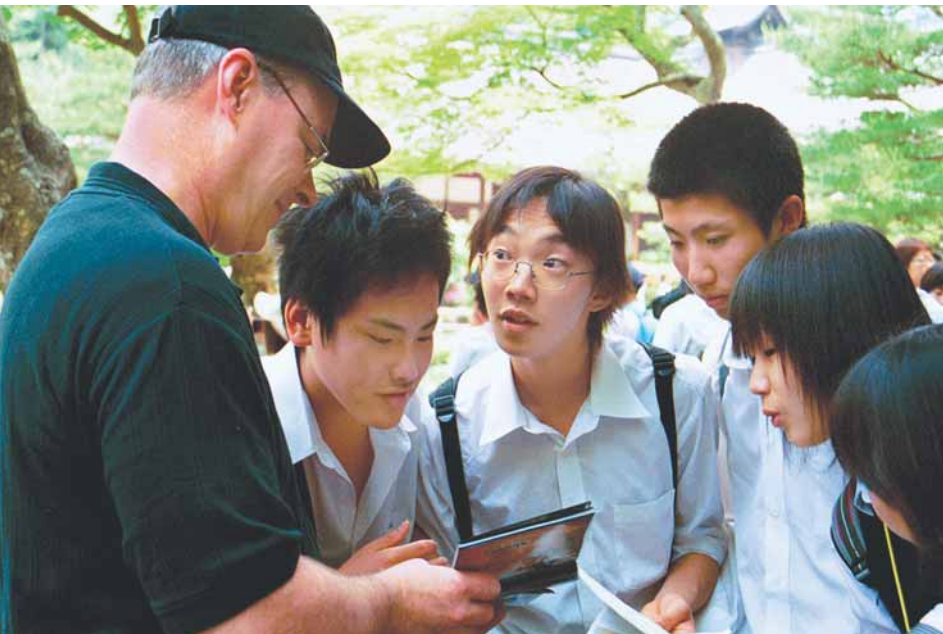
"We are honored to receive the prestigious Gold Service Award," said Shawn Corwin, Vice President of Sales. "At the BCVB, we know it is important to exceed our clients' expectations. That our clients chose to recognize how much they value our people and our services through this award is heartwarming."

The Bloomington Convention and Visitors Bureau promotes Bloomington, its hotels, businesses and attractions to visitors from around the world. Its primary funding is from a 2 percent tax on hotel rooms.

For more information, visit www.bloomingtonmn.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

EXPERIENCE JAPANESE CULTURE
JOIN THE SISTER CITY DELEGATION TO IZUMI CITY



APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE PART OF A Bloomington delegation to visit Izumi City, Japan, **August 30 to September 6**. Izumi City, Bloomington's Sister City since 1993, will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. The delegation will offer a great opportunity to learn more about Japanese culture and meet new friends. For more information or an application, call 952-563-8713, e-mail sistercity@ci.bloomington.mn.us or visit www.bloomington-izumi.org.

HUMAN SERVICES FAMILINK
SERVICES PROVIDED AT THE MINNESOTA WORKFORCE CENTER

HUMAN SERVICES FAMILINK IS NOW AVAILABLE **THURSDAYS, 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.**, at the Minnesota WorkForce Center, 4220 W. Old Shakopee Road. If you would like information on housing, financial assistance, health insurance, legal services, childcare or other issues, FamiLink staff will clarify your needs, discuss possible resources and get you connected to appropriate services. Human Services FamiLink serves individuals who live, work, attend school or are involved in activities in Bloomington. FamiLink staff is also available at Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Ave. S., Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., or by calling 952-563-4957 V/TTY.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CREEKSIDE
INFORMATION AND SERVICES YOU CAN USE

CREEKSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER, LOCATED AT 9801 PENN AVE. S., HOUSES THE HUMAN Services Senior Program. For more information on the following programs, call the Human Services Volunteer Desk at 952-563-4873; 952-563-4957 V/TTY.

FREE TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE

FREE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE IS available at Creekside on a first-come, first-served basis to individuals who meet income-qualifying guidelines. Tax assistance includes these programs:

ACCOUNTABILITY MINNESOTA

AccountAbility Minnesota will assist individuals with incomes of \$27,000 or less, and families with incomes of \$37,000 or less on **Saturdays, February 4 - April 15, 9 a.m. - noon** and **Tuesdays, February 7 - April 11, 6 - 9 p.m.**

TAX FORMS AVAILABLE AT CREEKSIDE

Federal tax forms are available for photocopying at Creekside.

FREE CELL PHONES TO ACCESS 911

RESIDENTS WHO DO NOT OWN CELL phones and are ages 55 or older or have disabilities or medical conditions may register for free cell phones refurbished to access 911 emergency services only. Phones will be distributed **Saturday,**

AARP TAX-AIDE

In partnership with the City of Bloomington, AARP Tax-Aide will provide tax preparation services to middle- and low-income taxpayers, with special attention to those age 60 and older. The AARP Tax-Aide program prepares personal income tax returns including the 1040, 1040A and 1040EZ. Taxpayers with complex tax returns are advised to seek paid tax assistance. Services are **Mondays and Tuesdays, February 6 - April 11 (except February 20), 9 a.m. - noon.**

April 22, 9 and 10 a.m., at Creekside. A monthly fee is not needed to access 911. Individuals who receive cell phones must attend a brief orientation on distribution day. To register, call the Volunteer Desk. This program is made possible by Qwest Pioneers.



THE BEST IN
REDEVELOPMENT
LYNDALE GREEN PROJECT
RECEIVES STARR AWARD

THE LYNDALE GREEN REDEVELOPMENT project at 84th Street and Lyndale Avenue was recently honored with the Minnesota Shopping Center Association's 2005 STARR (Shopping Center Tribute Award for Retail Real Estate) Award for best redevelopment. The project transformed an obsolete warehouse, grocery store and adjacent vacant building into a new neighborhood shopping area that includes the 95-unit Applewood Pointe Senior Cooperative, 38 townhomes and 12 "brownstone-styled" row homes, a new Cub Foods store, a 10,800-square-foot retail building and one-acre public park that will be completed this summer.

The STARR awards are presented annually to recognize excellence in the retail and shopping center industry. Lyndale Green was a cooperative effort among Bloomington-based United Properties, the Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority and the City of Bloomington.

AARP'S DEFENSIVE DRIVING
CLASSES

MINNESOTA LAW MANDATES A 10 PERCENT reduction in car insurance premiums for persons 55 and older who complete a defensive driving course. Classes are offered monthly. Cost is \$10. To register, call the Volunteer Desk.

MINNESOTA SENIOR FEDERATION
2006 MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG
PLAN PREVIEW AVAILABLE

TO RECEIVE A FREE COPY OF THE MEDICARE prescription and health plan options, call the Volunteer Desk or stop by Creekside.

INDOOR HIKING

IN FEBRUARY, THE HIKING Club will meet **Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.** to board the bus at Creekside and travel to Twin Cities' malls and skyways for indoor walks. The group will return at 11:30 a.m. Lunch at Creekside will follow the last hike on February 28. Cost is \$33. For more information, call 952-563-4949.



CELL PHONE DONATIONS NEEDED

To donate a working cell phone with a wall charger that was purchased within the last five years, drop it off at Creekside. Qwest Pioneers' volunteers will clear the phones of personal data and reprogram them to access 911.